

# French Fire on German Crowds; 6 Killed, 44 Hurt: Wilson Note

## General Degoutte Says the Soldiers Were Forced to Resort to Weapons for Their Own Defense

## Berlin Order Incites Frankfort Clash

## Rumors Current in Germany U. S. Will Demand France Withdraw

MAYENCE, April 7 (By The Associated Press).—Disturbances broke out in Frankfort to-day, but energetic intervention by the French troops restored order. From German sources it is learned that six Germans were killed and wounded.

It is reported that the manifestations which gave rise to these incidents were due to an order originating in Berlin.

**Ordered by Berlin**  
 "The first day of the occupation of Frankfurt passed without incident, the reception by the population being almost cordial," said General Degoutte, the French commander, on his return from a tour of inspection. "Then suddenly, orders from Berlin, a certain ferment seized the population. The ferment degenerated into aggression and our soldiers in self-defense were obliged to use their arms. So far as I know, we had no losses.

"The incident shows how we must watch proceedings in Berlin, and that is why the events in the Ruhr demand my whole attention. You cannot consider what is going on in the Ruhr all here apart. There is a close relationship between the events we are witnessing to-day. The aggressions at Frankfurt and events in the Ruhr are attributable to the same military reaction. Of this we have absolute proof.

### Royalists Seek Revenge

"The Berlin government allowed the Reichswehr to invade the Ruhr district unnecessarily, because it was the desire of Kapp, von Luettwitz and the like. The coup d'état having failed only through the general strike, the military party sought revenge on the working classes and invented the Bolshevik peril in the Ruhr. It ought to be proved that the

that there never was any Bolshevik peril in the Ruhr. It was simply a case of a population of workers who hates Prussian militarism asking on to be allowed to work in peace. The population was still at work in Essen yesterday. What is happening now is the result of the Reichswehr occupation.

General Degoutte was asked if he did not think Berlin would withdraw the troops from the Ruhr after the French occupation of Frankfurt, and he replied: "Most certainly not."

Speaking of the economic effects of the movement, General Degoutte declared: "Here is a single figure, but a eloquent one. Yesterday the Ruhr delivered us 13,000 tons of coal. To-day not a single ton crossed the frontier. Leave you to draw your own conclusions."

FRANKFORT, April 7.—Six Germans were killed and thirty-five wounded in an affray here to-day. Order finally was restored.

The affrays with the French troops occurred at different points in the city this afternoon. At 8 o'clock this evening order was restored in the city streets, which were frequently patrolled by troops. At 9 o'clock Frankfort was absolutely tranquil, by reason of the rule prohibiting the inhabitants to be abroad after that hour.

The trouble this afternoon had its origin in a rumor which had spread about the city that as a result of pressure on the part of the Allies the French troops had received orders to evacuate Frankfurt. The feeling was heightened when students in automobiles harangued the crowds and excited them against the French troops.

BERLIN, April 7 (By The Associated

The troops are said to have been annoyed by the crowds, which continuously jeered at them, whereupon they opened fire, killing seven persons and wounding many others, including women and children.

### U. S. Ultimatum Forecast

The message said the feeling of resentment among the civilian population was visibly increasing as a result of the incident.

Many rumors are current in Berlin to the effect that the United States is addressing a note to France demanding the withdrawal of the French forces from Frankfurt.

The newspapers are yet appearing in Frankfurt and the city is entirely without information regarding the contents of the notes exchanged between Berlin and Paris and other events connected with the French occupation of German towns.

**Berlin Sends Note of Protest**

The German Chargé d'Affaires in Paris was instructed yesterday to hand to the French government a note pro-

"We must, in the name of justice and humanity," the German government stated, "continue to maintain the status quo in the occupied territories of France and other territory on the right bank of the Rhine. The note further referring to the contents of the French note of April 5, notifying Germany that the occupation had been ordered, asserts that the occupation had been ordered before communication occurred between the German government and the French government."